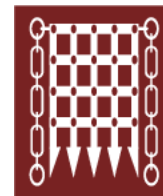


**Westminster Health Forum policy conference:  
Next steps for palliative care in England**  
Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026  
\*\*\*Taking place online\*\*\*



**WESTMINSTER  
HEALTH FORUM**

*Draft agenda subject to change*

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Key considerations for building a coherent national approach to palliative care**  
**Baroness Finlay**, Commissioner, Commission on Palliative and End-of-Life Care  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Developing a Modern Service Framework - commissioning consistency, long-term planning and sustainable funding**  
*development and implementation of a Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care Modern Service Framework | alignment of future service development with the 10 Year Health Plan | achieving consistent commissioning across ICBs | developing better understanding of current and future demand for services | current funding flows across the NHS, local authorities and the voluntary sector | options for standardising funding frameworks | supporting shifts towards community-based care | implications for hospital capacity, discharge pathways and care home support | priorities for palliative care in the context of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill not progressing | tackling specialist workforce shortages*  
**Dr Gillian Oakley**, Senior Lecturer, Palliative Care, University of Lancashire  
**Dr Rakesh Korla**, Clinical Lead, Ageing and Dying Well, NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board  
**Professor Katherine Sleeman**, Laing Galazka Chair in Palliative Care, King's College London; and Honorary Consultant in Palliative Medicine, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
**Sharon Allen**, CEO, Arthur Rank Hospice Charity  
**Maxine Taffetani**, CEO, Healthwatch Milton Keynes  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Assessing palliative care funding in England - insights on demand, pressures and future requirements**  
**Lee Summerfield**, Director, Responsive Audit and Investigations, National Audit Office  
**Lloyd Astley**, Senior Analyst, National Audit Office  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Paul Davies MP**
- 11.05 **Putting patients at the centre of palliative care - addressing variation, access and experience across England**  
**Helen Forrow**, Managing Director, Marie Curie
- 11.20 **Tackling inequalities and delivering personalised, technology-assisted community-based care**  
*provision of personalised care for patients and their families in appropriate settings | support for anticipatory planning and shared decision-making | addressing variation in access, experience and support | identifying disparities affecting underserved and marginalised groups | simplifying fragmented pathways and improving co-ordination between services | developing enhanced support for families and carers, including access to bereavement services, advice and support | embedding palliative care expertise into multidisciplinary teams and neighbourhood health models | use of data, digital tools and system dashboards to support planning, predict need, target interventions and reduce crisis admissions | remote monitoring, virtual wards and virtual reality use to enhance quality of life*  
**Dr Tammy Angel**, Chief Clinical Transformation Officer, Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
**Dr Mike Blaber**, Palliative Medicine Specialist, Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust  
Senior representative, primary care  
Senior representative, innovation  
Senior representative, mental health
- 12.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for palliative and end-of-life care going forward**  
Senior representative, health policy  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks**  
**Paul Davies MP**  
**Tess Mitchell-Thomas**, Westminster Health Forum